

United States Navy Salvage Forces

(What's that got to do with Sea
Basing??)

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WHAT DO SALVAGE FORCES HAVE TO DO WITH SEA BASING??

- Sea Basing is reliant on connectors.
- Current and near-term connectors are inadequate to exclusively support logistics demands of a rapidly advancing joint war-fighting front.
- Until connectors are more capable, Sea Basing remains critically dependent on ports.
- Ports have their own vulnerability: a determined enemy can easily impede or deny access to channels, harbors and berths.
- USN Salvage Forces will be expected to come to the rescue.

Problem Statement: USN Salvage Forces are not adequately addressed in Sea Basing doctrine, war gaming, war plans, or op plans, and are “bit-players” in major Fleet exercises.

Risk: “Ad hoc”-ing a major salvage operation in the midst of insertion or sustainment of Sea Based combat forces.

Solutions

1. Develop Sea Basing doctrine which employs Salvage Forces for:

Harbor and Channel Clearance

Amphibious Operations

Battle Damage Assessment & Repair

Casualty Towing

2. Develop/overhaul war plans and op plans to synchronize with revised doctrine.

3. “War-game” Salvage Force response to understand logistics impacts.

4. Employ Salvage Forces in major Fleet exercises (aka... train the way we plan to fight)